



# 2020 LEGISLATIVE



# IMPACT REPORT

## #CHSADVOCACY

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

---

<b>CHS Senate Pages</b>	<b>Pg. 5</b>
<b>Legislative Statistics for 2020</b>	<b>Pg. 6</b>
<b>Legislation That Passed</b>	<b>Pg. 7</b>
<b>Legislation That Failed</b>	<b>Pg. 18</b>
<b>FY 20-21 Budget Highlights</b>	<b>Pg. 20</b>
<b>FY 20-21 Proviso Summary</b>	<b>Pg. 21</b>
<b>CHS Advocacy Appreciation Awards</b>	<b>Pg. 23</b>
<b>CHS Priorities Impact</b>	<b>Pg. 24</b>



*CHS Gulfcoast Board Members and Staff honoring Rep. Chris Latvala with Legislator Appreciation Award following his tour of Mort Elementary CPS.  
Cover page photo: 2020 CHS Advocacy Team Training*



## **CHS Advocates Making an IMPACT**

Special thanks to each of YOU - CHS State and Regional Board Members, Staff, Advocates and our CHS Lobbyist Team for your tireless efforts throughout the 2020 Legislative Session.

Without your determination and advocacy to legislators we would not have been so successful this Session. We thank you and look to your continued advocacy presence in the future.

For copies of this Report, legislative priorities and advocacy information please see the Advocacy Page of the CHS website at [www.chsfl.org/advocate](http://www.chsfl.org/advocate).

If you have any questions regarding this Report please contact Summer Pfeiffer, Vice President of Governmental Relations, at 850.339.5463 or [Summer.Pfeiffer@chsfl.org](mailto:Summer.Pfeiffer@chsfl.org).



*Senator David Simmons touring Evans Community Partnership School with Partners: UCF, CHS, OCPS and Orange Blossom Family Health*



*US DOE Assistant Secretary Frank Brogan meeting with CHS CPS Team*

# 2020 CHS Senate Pages

## Special thanks to our Host Families



**We couldn't do this without YOU!**



## 2020 Session Statistics

---

### Legislative Statistics:

TOTAL Bills Filed <small>(doesn't include House budget bills)</small>	1884
TOTAL Bills Passed	210
Success Rate of Bills Filed	11.14%

\*\*\*\*\*

### CHS Advocacy Social Media Posts Statistics: March – May 2019

December 2019 – March 2020

- #CHSAdvocacy was tweeted 91 times and appeared on Facebook 10 times
- Advocacy tweets originating from @HelpFLKids appeared in 22,384 news feeds organically
- Advocacy tweets originating from @HelpFLKids were supported with more than 554 engagements -- including likes, replies, and retweets



# 2020 Session

## Bills That Passed

---

*Excerpts from the 2020 House and Senate Session Summaries*

### **HB 43 – Child Welfare by Rep. Latvala**

The bill is titled “Jordan’s Law” and makes a number of changes to the laws related to the child welfare system in an attempt to address issues that were identified in the case of Jordan Belliveau, a two-year old boy who was killed by his mother in Pinellas County in 2018.

The bill requires specified child welfare professionals, circuit and county judges who have responsibility for dependency cases, Guardian ad Litem program staff, and law enforcement officers to receive training developed on the recognition of and response to head trauma and brain injury in children under six years old. Such training for child welfare professionals must be developed by the Child Protection Teams within the Department of Health.

The bill creates a communication process between the Department of Children and Families and law enforcement by requiring the systems used by both agencies to allow the Florida Department of Law Enforcement to make available to law enforcement agencies information that a person is a parent or caregiver involved in the child welfare system. The communication process must be operational by March 1, 2021. The bill further requires that if a law enforcement officer interacts with such a person and has concerns for a child’s health, safety, or well-being, the officer shall contact the Florida central abuse hotline. The hotline must then provide relevant information to individuals involved in the child’s case. Quarterly progress reports are required until all systems enhancements and integrations required to implement these provisions are complete and in production.

The bill also requires third-party credentialing entities that certify child welfare personnel to review the findings and all relevant records involving the death of a child or other critical incident following completion of any reviews by the department, the inspector general, or the Office of the Attorney General if a complaint is filed by an outside party involving certified personnel. This review must assess the certified personnel’s compliance with the third-party credentialing entity’s published code of ethical and professional conduct and disciplinary procedures. The bill allows credentialing and provides additional duties for the department and third-party credentialing entities.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect July 1, 2020.

*Vote: Senate 40-0; House 113-0*



**Potential Impact: CHS currently is a provider of telehealth services and this legislation provides a statutory structure including definition, standards of practice and list of 27 licensed health care practitioners that can provide services.**

#### **HB 61 - Adoption Benefits by Rep. Roth**

The bill allows certain military veterans and service members who adopt a child through the state's child welfare system to receive a monetary benefit of \$10,000 per child if the child has special needs, or \$5,000 per child if the child does not, through the State Employee Adoption Benefit Program. Currently, such monetary benefits are available to employees of state agencies, public schools, charter schools and the Florida Virtual School. The bill also clarifies, for purposes of qualifying for the benefit, that an employee of a state agency may include other-personal-services employees who have been employed full-time or part-time by a state agency for at least one year.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect July 1, 2020.

*Vote: Senate 40-0; House 118-0*

**Potential Impact: The new provisions contained in the legislation expand adoption benefits to military veterans and service members.**

#### **HB 81 – Health Care for Children by Rep. Andrade**

The bill requires the Department of Health to create an electronic pamphlet with information on the screening for, and treatment of, preventable infant and childhood eye and vision disorders. The pamphlet must be provided to new parents by hospitals providing birthing services, birth centers, and by the healthcare practitioner attending an out-of-hospital birth.

The bill authorizes school districts to certify for reimbursement eligible school-based health services provided to any student enrolled in Medicaid, regardless of whether that student qualifies for Part B or H of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, the exceptional student education program, or has an individualized education plan. The bill aligns Florida law with updated federal guidance that authorizes the federal reimbursement of Medicaid-eligible, school-based health services for all students enrolled in Medicaid.

The bill clarifies that an auditory-oral education program must use faculty and supervisors certified as listening and spoken language specialists each day the child is



in attendance and also requires a certified listening and spoken language specialist from the family's chosen auditory-oral education program to be included in the Individualized Education Plan team or Family Support Plan team.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect July 1, 2020.

*Vote: Senate 38-0; House 113-0*

**Potential Impact: The legislation updates Florida law with federal policy to allow all Medicaid eligible students to receive specific school-based health services and be reimbursed. Schools can provide services or can contract those services out to providers. Increasing access to health services at school for Medicaid eligible students.**

#### **HB 89 – Adoption Records by Rep Stark**

The bill clarifies current law by providing that the Bureau of Vital Statistics within the Department of Health may disclose the name and identity of the birth parent, if the birth parent provides written consent for the release of his or her name and the adoptee is 18 years of age or older. Accordingly, the adoptive parent's signature is no longer required when the adoptee is an adult. If the adoptee is younger than 18 years of age, the adoptive parent's consent is still required.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect July 1, 2020.

*Vote: Senate 37-2; House 119-0*

**Potential Impact: After many attempts to modify adoption records law, legislation passed allowing for birth parent names to be disclosed if birth parent provides written consent. Until the age of 18, adoptive parental consent will be required.**

#### **HB 945 – Children's Mental Health by Rep. Silvers**

The bill requires the Department of Children and Families (DCF) and the Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA) to identify children, adolescents, and young adults age 25 and under who are the highest users of crisis stabilization services. The bill also requires DCF to collaboratively take action to meet the behavioral health needs of such children. The bill directs these agencies to jointly submit a quarterly report to the Legislature during Fiscal Years 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 on the actions taken by both agencies to better serve these individuals.

The bill requires the behavioral health managing entities (MEs) to create plans that promote the development and implementation of a coordinated system of care for children, adolescents, and young adults to integrate behavioral health services



provided through state-funded child serving systems and to facilitate access to mental health and substance abuse treatment and services. The bill requires DCF to contract with the MEs for crisis response services provided through mobile response teams (MRTs) to provide immediate, onsite behavioral health services 24 hours per day, seven days per week within available resources.

When contracting for an MRT, MEs must collaborate with local sheriff's offices and public schools in the selection process. The bill also requires that the MRT establish response protocols with local law enforcement agencies, community-based care lead agencies, the child welfare system, and the Department of Juvenile Justice, and requires that the MRT provide access to psychiatrists or psychiatric nurse practitioners. The bill requires MRTs to refer children, adolescents, or young adults and their families to an array of crisis response services that address their individual needs.

The bill requires MEs to promote the use of available crisis intervention services. The bill requires contracted providers to give parents and caregivers of children who receive behavioral health services information on how to contact an MRT.

The bill amends foster parent preservice training requirements to include local MRT contact information and requires community-based care lead agencies to provide MRT contact information to all individuals that provide care for dependent children.

The bill requires principals of public and charter schools to verify de-escalation procedures have been followed and an MRT has been contacted prior to initiating a Baker Act of a student unless the principal or their designee reasonably believes a delay will increase the likelihood of harm to the student or others.

The bill requires DCF and AHCA to assess the quality of care provided in crisis stabilization units to children and adolescents who are high utilizers of such services and submit a joint report on their findings to the Governor and Legislature by November 15, 2020. The bill also requires AHCA to regularly test Medicaid managed care plan provider network databases to ensure that behavioral health providers are accepting enrollees and confirm sufficient access to behavioral health systems.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect July 1, 2020.

*Vote: Senate 40-0; House 110-0*

**Potential Impact: The purpose of this bill is to create better access and identify more children thru age 25 that are in need of mental health services. Mobile Response Team information will be included for foster parent training and anyone who is caring for dependent children. New procedures for school personnel to follow on verifying de-escalation.**



## HB 1105 – Child Welfare by Rep. Tomkow

The bill makes a number of changes to the laws relating to child welfare designed to increase the accountability of parents with children in out-of-home care, encourage better communication between caregivers and birth parents, and shorten the length of time children spend in out-of-home care. Specifically, the bill:

- Specifies timelines and steps in both foster parent licensing and approval of adoptive parents.
- Requires the Department of Children and Families (department) to notify the court of any report to the central abuse hotline that involves a child under court jurisdiction.
- Allows the department to file a shelter or dependency petition without the need for a new child protective investigation or the concurrence of the child protective investigator if the department determines that the safety plan is no longer sufficient to keep the child safe or that the parent or caregiver has not sufficiently increased his or her level of protective capacities to ensure the child's safety.
- Provides factors for the court to consider when determining whether a change of legal custody or placement is in the child's best interest.
- Provides circumstances under which a court may remove a child and place him or her in out-of-home care if a child was placed in his or her own home with an in-home safety plan or was reunited with a parent with an in-home safety plan.
- Requires circuit and county court judges for dependency cases to receive education relating to early childhood development, which includes the value of strong parent-child relationships, secure attachments, stable placements and the impact of trauma on children in out-of-home care.

The bill also provides legislative findings and intent and codifies responsibilities for working partnerships between foster parents and birth parents in order to ensure that children in out-of-home care achieve permanency as soon as possible, to reduce the likelihood they will re-enter care, and to ensure that families are prepared to resume care of their children.

The bill further provides a process for a community-based care lead agency to demonstrate the need to directly provide more than 35 percent of all child welfare services in the lead agency's service area.

Additionally, the bill codifies the creation and establishment of early childhood court (ECC) programs that serve the needs of children (typically under the age of three) in dependency court by using specialized dockets, multidisciplinary teams, community coordinators, and evidence-based treatment that supports the needs of the parent and child in a nonadversarial manner.

- The Office of the State Courts Administrator (OSCA) may coordinate with each participating circuit court to hire a community coordinator for the circuit's early



childhood court program to manage programs and data collection between ECC court team participants.

- Directs OSCA to contract for an evaluation of the ECC's evidence-based treatment services and authorizes the OSCA to provide ECC court teams with training, consultation, and guidance.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect July 1, 2020.

*Vote: Senate 38-0; House 118-0.*

**Potential Impact: This legislation amends many sections of Chapter 39 dealing with placement stability and child safety. Creates more opportunities for circuit courts to implement early childhood courts that have been shown to have good outcomes for kids. It also changes time frames and process for foster parent licensure and adoptive home studies to expedite the process in order for kids to find permanency faster. The new section directs DCF and CBCs to develop and support relationships between foster families and biological parents of children in out-of-home care, when it is safe and in the child's best interest. CBCs that want to provide more than the required 35% of direct services from within will now have a community driven process to gain approval.**

#### **HB 1135 – License Plates by Rep. J. Grant**

The bill authorizes the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles (DHSMV) to issue specialty license plates (SLP) for fleet and motor vehicle dealer vehicles, and establishes a cap of 150 SLPs.

The bill increases the required number of voucher sales needed within 24 months before the DHSMV will manufacture a SLP, increasing the number from 1,000 to 3,000, and requires an out-of-state college or university SLP to meet a minimum sale of 4,000 vouchers.

The bill provides that new SLPs that have been approved by law but are awaiting issuance must be issued in the order they appear in statute as long as they have met the presale requirement and any other provisions of law. If the next awaiting SLP has not met the presale requirement, the DHSMV must proceed in the order provided in statute to identify the next qualified SLP that has met the presale requirement. The DHSMV must cycle through the list in statutory order.

The bill requires the DHSMV to discontinue the SLP with the fewest number of plates in circulation, including SLPs exempt from a statutory sales requirement on January 1 of each year. For the SLPs in the bottom ten percent of sales, the bill requires the DHSMV to mail a warning letter to the sponsoring organizations on December 1 of each year.



In addition to the above discontinuance, beginning July 1, 2023, the DHSMV must discontinue the issuance of an approved SLP if the number of valid registrations falls below 3,000 plates for 12 consecutive months. The threshold for out-of-state college or university SLPs is 4,000. The DHSMV must mail a warning letter to the sponsoring organization following the first month in which the total number of registrations is below 3,000, or 4,000 for out-of-state college or university SLPs. In addition to the existing exemption from the 3,000 plate sales requirement for in-state collegiate SLPs, the bill provides exceptions from the discontinuance requirement for SLPs:

- For institutions in and entities of the State University System;
- With statutory eligibility limitations for purchase;
- For which the annual use fees are distributed by a foundation for student and teacher leadership programs and teacher recruitment and retention; and
- For Florida Professional Sports Teams.

The bill revises provisions regarding license plate design or uses of annual use fees for the following existing license plates:

- Special Olympics Florida;
- Live the Dream;
- In God We Trust;
- Fallen Law Enforcement Officers;
- Blue Angels;
- U.S. Paratroopers; and
- Gold Star.

The bill updates the reference from “Prevent Blindness Florida” to “Preserve Vision Florida” to reflect the change in the organization’s name for the distribution of a portion of the motorcycle SLP annual use fees.

The bill repeals the following SLPs that have been discontinued:

- American Red Cross;
- Support Soccer;
- Donate Organs Pass It On;
- St. Johns River; and
- Hispanic Achievers.

The bill creates the following license plates and specifies the design and the distribution of the associated annual use fees;

- Independent College or University;
- Ducks Unlimited;
- Auburn University;
- Beat Childhood Cancer;
- Walt Disney World;

- Florida 4-H;
- Donate Life Florida;
- Florida State Beekeepers Association;
- Rotary;
- Highwaymen;
- Dan Marino Campus;
- Orlando City Soccer Club;
- Daughters of the American Revolution;
- Gadsden Flag;
- America the Beautiful;
- Explore Off Road Florida;
- American Eagle;
- Guardian Ad Litem;
- Jumbo Shrimp;
- Thank A Lineman;
- Best Buddies;
- University of Georgia;
- Divine Nine;
- Florida Bay Forever;
- Bonefish and Tarpon Trust;
- Coastal Conservation Association;
- Johnson and Wales University;
- Florida Stands With Israel;
- Give Kids The World;
- Marine Corps League;
- K9s United;
- Florida Native; and
- University of Alabama.

The bill provides the Divine Nine and Independent College or University SLPs will be based on a standard template with a unique logo or graphic for each eligible entity. Individual SLP sales will be combined for meeting that standard template SLP's minimum sales threshold and for determining the SLP limit. These SLPs must be order directly from the DHSMV.

The bill creates three special use plates:

- Purple Heart motorcycle special use plate;
- Veteran motorcycle special use plate; and
- Bronze Star automobile special use plate.

The bill revises the provision related to the eligible use of fees and interest from the sale of SLPs, and requires the DHSMV to audit any SLP revenue recipient every three years if the organization is not subject to the Florida Single Audit Act. The purpose of this audit is to ensure that SLP proceeds have been used in compliance with Florida Statutes.



The bill revises the eligibility criteria for special license plates for current and former state legislators, requiring they must have served at least two years as a state senator or a state representative prior to January 1, 2021, and revises the eligibility criteria for special license plates for current and former Senate Presidents and House Speakers, requiring that they must have served as President or Speaker prior to January 1, 2021. The bill also repeals special license plates for former members of Congress.

The bill creates a permanent registration period on for-hire vehicles under nine passengers, provided payment of license taxes and fees occurs annually. It also provides that validation stickers for vehicles for hire under nine passengers may be valid for the life of a license plate, and become void if the proper license taxes and fees are not paid annually.

The bill removes existing provisions from law that delineate the \$25 annual use fee for various SLPs. The bill is linked to HB 387, a fee bill, which establishes an annual use fee of \$25 for any SLP unless the amount is otherwise specified in law.

If approved by the Governor, except as otherwise expressly provided in the bill, the bill shall take effect October 1, 2020, but only if HB 387 or similar legislation takes effect, if such legislation is adopted in the same legislative session or an extension thereof and becomes a law.

*Vote: Senate 39-0; House 112-0*

**Potential Impact: CHS equally shares revenues with Florida Children’s Advocacy Centers with the sale of the “Stop Child Abuse” Specialty License Plate (SLP). Currently our number of annual sales averages 6000. If sales fall below 3000 then the SLP will be discontinued. CHS has plans to market the sale of SLP and increase awareness and revenues.**

### **SB 1326 Child Welfare by Sen. Simpson**

The bill makes several changes to the child welfare programs administered by the Department of Children and Families (DCF) to promote accountability and improve program performance. The bill also seeks to increase the use of faith-based organizations in the delivery of services.

To improve accountability, the bill establishes the Office of Quality within DCF to measure and monitor the performance of agency programs whether provided directly by DCF or through contracts with local service providers. The office must set performance metrics and standards, improve the ability of DCF to analyze program performance data, and recommend initiatives to correct deficiencies. Such initiatives could include enhanced monitoring, corrective action plans, required technical assistance, and financial penalties.



The bill requires certain Sheriffs' Offices that conduct child protective investigations to follow the DCF child welfare practice model. DCF is to collaborate with all Sheriffs' Offices that conduct child protective investigations to develop a monitoring program to assess such services. The monitoring program must include case reviews based on a random selection of child welfare cases.

The bill revises the authority of DCF to contract for children's legal services in the child welfare system and requires increased oversight of contracted attorneys.

The bill directs DCF to develop a statewide accountability system for child welfare. The new accountability system must use a grading scheme to monitor performance in each region.

The bill establishes two 2-year pilot projects to improve child welfare services in the sixth and thirteenth judicial circuits. DCF must set performance metrics and standards for the pilot projects, monitor performance, and based on performance, award incentive funding to the community based care lead agency.

The bill expands the functions of the Florida Institute for Child Welfare (Institute) to inform, train, and engage social work students for a successful career in child welfare. The bill directs the Institute to work with the FSU College of Social Work to redesign the social work curriculum to enable postsecondary students to learn from real-world child welfare cases. Under the bill, the Institute must design and implement a professional development curriculum for the current child welfare workforce by July 1, 2021. The bill requires DCF, in collaboration with the Institute, to develop an expanded career ladder for child protective investigators.

The bill encourages the involvement of community-based and faith-based organizations in the local system of care. Local community alliances that advise DCF on local human services must now include a representative of a faith-based organization. Community-based care lead agencies must assign an employee to serve as a liaison to work with faith-based organizations. The bill also requires DCF to implement programs to prevent and mitigate the impact of secondary traumatic stress and burnout among child protective investigators. These three components of the bill have a short title of "State of Hope Act."

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect July 1, 2020.

*Vote: Senate 39-0; House 117-0*

**Potential Impact: Bill makes multiple policy changes for child welfare administration and workforce, including newly created Office of Quality for DCF and direction to develop a statewide accountability system. Workforce curriculum to help social work students and those currently in the profession will be developed by Child Welfare Institute at FSU. CBCs that operate in Hillsborough, Pasco and Pinellas counties have been granted a new way to operate in order to achieve better outcomes.**



*CHS Gulfcoast Board Members meeting with legislative staff– Left  
Clay County Day at the Capitol – Right*



*CHS Gulfcoast Board Members meeting with Rep. Valdes' staff*



## 2020 Session

# Bills That Failed

---

**HB 41 Rep. Grieco:** Conversion Therapy: Prohibits specified licensees & practitioners from practicing or performing conversion therapy on individual who is younger than specified age; provides that such licensee or practitioner is subject to disciplinary proceedings by DOH & appropriate board. Effective Date: July 1, 2020

**SB 80 by Sen. Book:** Aggravated Child Abuse; Redefining the term “aggravated child abuse”; providing a criminal penalty, etc. Effective Date: October 1, 2020

**HB 193 by Rep. Roth and SB 354 by Sen. Montford:** Child Care Subsidies for Foster Parents: Provides early education or child care subsidy for certain foster parents. Effective Date: July 1, 2020

**HB 413 by Rep. Bryd and SB 232 by Sen. Book:** Child Welfare; Expanding the list of incidents or injuries that constitute harm to a child’s health or welfare; expanding the types of reports that the Department of Children and Families must refer to Child Protection Teams, etc. Effective Date: July 1, 2020

**SB 300 by Sen. Farmer:** Food Pantries in Public Schools; Authorizing school districts to adopt a policy to allow schools to create food pantry programs in collaboration with nonprofit organizations; authorizing school districts to provide food from the pantry at no cost to students under specified circumstances; authorizing school employees to prepare and distribute donated food, etc. Effective Date: 7/1/2020

**HB 1045 by Rep. Gottlieb and SB 496 by Sen. Book:** Child Welfare; Specifying the rights of children and young adults in out-of-home care; requiring the Florida Children’s Ombudsman to serve as an autonomous entity within the department for certain purposes; requiring that a case plan be developed in a face-to-face conference with a caregiver of a child under certain circumstances; requiring a caseworker to provide specified information relating to subsidies that early learning coalitions provide to caregivers of certain children, etc. Effective Date: 10/1/2020

**HB 585 by Rep. Ausley and SB 1182 by Sen. Monford:** Pay-for-success Contracts: Authorizes state agency to enter into pay-for-success contract with private entity under certain conditions, subject to appropriation & specified language in GAA; authorizes carryforward of specified unexpended appropriations; provides contract requirements; authorizes cancellation of contract; specifies services & programs that may be eligible for funding under contract; prohibits private entity from viewing or receiving personal client information that is otherwise confidential & exempt from public records law; requires agency to provide annual report to legislative appropriations committees by specified date; requires DMS to prescribe certain procedures by specified date. Effective Date: July 1, 2020

**HB 661 by Rep. Newton and SB 1136 by Sen. Brandes:** Children’s Services Councils: Revises annual reporting requirements to include certain performance data; revises financial reporting requirements. Effective Date: October 1, 2020

**HB 853 by Rep. Buchanan and SB 1104 by Sen. Baxley:** State Park Fee Waivers and Discounts: Requires Division of Recreation & Parks within DEP to provide specified state park fee waiver & discount to persons, corporations, or agencies that operate group homes & to certain out-of-home caregivers. Effective Date: July 1, 2020

**SB 7000 by Senate Committee on Children and Families:** Reporting Abuse, Abandonment, and Neglect; Relocating existing provisions relating to the central abuse hotline of the Department of Children and Families; revising when a person is required to report to the central abuse hotline; providing penalties for the failure to report known or suspected child abuse, abandonment, or neglect; providing responsibilities for child protective investigators relating to animal abuse and neglect; requiring the Education Practices Commission to suspend the educator certificate of certain personnel and administrators for failing to report known or suspected child abuse, etc. Effective Date: 7/1/2020



*CHS and Clay County Schools awarding Rep. Travis Cummings -  
CHS Legislator of the Year Award*

# FY 2020-2021

## Budget Highlights

Issue	Final Budget Outcomes
Community Partnership Schools Expansion (aka Community School Grants, Sec. 1003.64, F.S.)	\$7.1 million recurring
Community Partnership Schools carry forward unused monies to next FY	Includes language in the Back of Bill
Additional Child Welfare Core Services -includes proviso to direct these funds to be used to reach caseload sizes of 1:17	\$11.9 million
CBC Risk Pool	\$5 million
Children's Advocacy Centers- Request \$500,000 non recurring restoration	\$0
Open Doors Human Trafficking	\$750,000
Back of the Bill – CBC Deficits	\$19.7 million

*The Governor has not been presented with HB 5001 General Appropriations Act at this time. Once he finalizes the budget and provides his list of vetoed items this section will be updated.*



*CHS Big Bend Team with Andry Sweet, CEO after testifying before Senate Committee on Health and Human Services Appropriations*



## FY 2020-2021

# Proviso Language & Back of the Bill

---

From the funds in Specific Appropriation 330, the department shall conduct a comprehensive, multi-year review of the revenues, expenditures, and financial position of all community-based care lead agencies and shall cover the most recent two consecutive fiscal years. The review must include a comprehensive system-of-care analysis. All lead agencies must develop and maintain a plan to achieve financial viability which shall accompany the department's submission. The department's review shall be submitted to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives by November 1, 2020.

From the funds in Specific Appropriation 330, and as authorized by s. 409.991(4), Florida Statutes, the sum of \$7,387,525 from the General Revenue Fund and \$4,561,143 from the Federal Grants Trust Fund is provided to Community-based care lead agencies to reduce each agency's average case manager to caseload ratio to 1 to 17. The ratio shall be determined using the 24-month average of in-home and out-of-home caseloads for each agency, as of June 30, 2019. The department is authorized to prorate each agency's allocation should this funding level not meet the targeted caseload ratio. By November 1, 2020, the department shall provide a report to the chairs of the Senate Committee on Appropriations and the House Appropriations Committee, and the Governor's Office and Policy and Budget, that lists each agency's allocation and the factors, variables, and calculations underlying the amounts. The report shall also identify the remaining resources needed by each agency to reach a case manager to caseload ratio of 1 to 16 by the end of Fiscal Year 2021-2022.

SECTION 12. The unexpended balance of funds provided to the Department of Education for the Community School Grant Program in Specific Appropriation 112A of chapter 2019-115, Laws of Florida, shall revert and is appropriated for Fiscal Year 2020-2021 to the Department of Education for the same purpose.

SECTION 31. The nonrecurring sums of \$10,313,926 from the General Revenue Fund, \$4,500,000 from the Welfare Transition Trust Fund, and \$4,937,976 from the Federal Grants Trust Fund are provided to the Department of Children and Families for Fiscal Year 2019-2020 in the Lump Sum - Grants and Aids - Community Based Care category for the purpose of mitigating operational deficits experienced by the community-based care lead agencies. The department is authorized to submit budget amendments, pursuant to the provisions of chapter 216, Laws of Florida, requesting the release of funds. This section shall take effect upon becoming a law.



*Above – CPS Day at the Capitol – 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition  
Below - CHS Palm Beach with Andry Sweet, CEO, after testifying before House Committee on Children, Families and Seniors*



# CHS Advocacy Award Recipients - 2019

*Congratulations to all our Children's Home Society of Florida Advocacy Award Recipients for their hard work and dedication throughout 2019. Margaret Fowler – Big Bend Tallahassee; Spencer Pylant – Southeastern; Maurice Pearson – Central Florida; Malissa Chavarria – Gulfcoast and Jarvis Wheeler – CHS Home Office.*



Margaret Fowler, Board Member and Teen Leadership Council Coordinator



Spencer Pylant, Board Member



Maurice Pearson, Board Member



Malissa Chavarria, Board Member



# CHS Legislative Priorities Impact -2020



## **Evidenced-Based Model – Community Partnership Schools**

IMPACT: CHS advocated with various partners to maintain current funding at \$7.1million and to increase funds to expand the model to additional schools. *The Legislature approved recurring funds and carry forward funds from the current fiscal year to the next fiscal year to expand model to additional schools.*



## **Community Based Care System: Building a Strong, Stable and Prepared Frontline**

IMPACT: CHS advocated for additional funds to support a strong, stable and prepared frontline. The important role case managers play on the positive impacts on kids was communicated using a variety of methods throughout the 2020 Legislative Session, including various Opinion pieces, social media and CHS Case Managers and CHS President and CEO testifying before House and Senate Committees. The Budget contains additional funds for Child Welfare and proviso requiring funds be used to lower case manager caseloads. *CHS will continue to advocate that additional funds be spent in subsequent years to reduce caseloads as the Governor and DCF Secretary's plans outlines.*



## **Role Clarity for Community Based Care Lead Agencies and providers**

IMPACT: Community Based Care Lead Agencies (CBCs) and Child Welfare Providers worked together to agree on a statutory change for the role clarity of CBCs through a community driven process. *This language was first filed during the 2019 Legislative Session and ultimately passed during the 2020 Legislative Session by Rep. Tomkow.*



## **Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA)**

IMPACT: CHS has played an active role for many years in making legislators aware of the impact of losing the Federal Waiver, implementing the new federal legislation and encouraging our state leaders to prepare. *Federal advocacy along with state efforts achieved successful transition funding from current system to support the new upcoming FFPSA legislation.*



*Above - Sabal Palm Community Partnership School Leadership Team at the Capitol getting their students eye screens and glasses donated by Florida Heiken Vision.  
Next Page – CHS Advocacy Week at the Capitol Legislative Briefing*



## 2021 Legislative Session Dates

---

*Interim Committee meetings will begin after November 2020 Elections.*

**Session Begins – March 2, 2021**

**Session Ends – April 30, 2021**